The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Vision After Victory

A SERVICE TO BE USED WHEN FIGHTING CEASES IN ANY THEATRE OF THE WAR

Hymn 216, God Moves in a Mysterious Way. *Omitting stanza* 5.

BLESSED be thou, O Lord God of our fathers, for ever and ever. Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all . . . In thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is . . . to give strength unto all.

AN OFFERING OF HUMBLE THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.
O God the Father, who hast made all the world;
Have mercy upon us.
O God the Son, who hast redeemed all mankind;
Save thy people.
O Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful;
Govern us, and lift us up for ever.
Lord, teach us to pray.
And mercifully hear thy people.
O God, make clean our hearts.
And renew a right spirit within us.

REMEMBER, O Lord, what thou hast wrought in us, and not what we deserve; and, as thou hast called us to thy service, make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For the lives in every land that have been preserved for thy service, among ourselves and among our enemies;

We thank thee, O God.

For the faithfulness and heroism of all who have laid down their lives;

We thank thee, O God.

For the willingness of those who, maimed in the heat of warfare, still seek to give themselves for the building of thy kingdom on earth;

We thank thee, O God.

For the persistent courage and resourcefulness of thousands, in both civil and military life, unknown to us, but known to thee;

We thank thee, O God.

For the integrity of leaders of thought and action who acknowledge the sacred trust reposed in them;

We thank thee, O God.

For the countless acts of service performed by men, women, and children, who without thought of fame or reward have helped their fellowmen;

We thank thee, O God.

For husbands restored to wives, sons and daughters to parents, and friends reunited;

We thank thee, O God.

For the preservation of many monuments of the noble past;

We thank thee, O God.

For new visions caught, and old hopes revived;

We thank thee, O God.

For the unfaltering witness of thy Church in many places in every land;

We thank thee, O God.

For good things given us which are yet unseen by us;

We thank thee, O God.

In silence let us remember God's special goodness to each of us.

IN remembrance of those who made the great sacrifice, O God, make us better men and women, and give peace in our time; through Jesus Christ, thy Son our Saviour. *Amen.*

O GOD, who holdest all souls in life; Receive our humble and hearty thanks for all thy servants who have laid down their lives in the cause of liberty, especially those whom we now name in our hearts. Blessed be thy glorious Name for that thou dost bestow upon them the light of thy presence, where, in the fellowship of all faithful people, they may win with thee the eternal victory of righteousness and peace; through our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

¶ *Here shall be said or sung the* Te Deum

¶ *Then shall be read a Lesson of Holy Scripture. The following are suggested as appropriate:*

St. Luke 6: 27-36; Ephesians 2: 13-18; Colossians 3: 15.

Hymn 306, Lord, For Ever at Thy Side.

AN ACT OF PENITENCE

LET us ask God to forgive us for the many ways in which we have abused his gifts, forgetting that they were entrusted to us to be used in his Name and for our fellowmen.

O God, make clean our hearts.
And renew a right spirit within us.

Our share in the sins that have brought the curse of war upon thy children;
Good Lord, forgive.

Our greed, our selfishness, our indifference to the welfare of others;
Good Lord, forgive.

Our pride of class, or nation, or race;
Good Lord, forgive.

Our ruthless competition, our readiness to exploit our fellows;
Good Lord, forgive.

Our desecration of earth's beauty; our wanton waste of the wealth in soil and sea;
Good Lord, forgive.

Our starving of old and young, our cruelty to the innocent, our trust in the weapons of war, our ruthlessness in battle;
Good Lord, forgive.

O LORD, we beseech thee absolve thy people from their offenses, that through thy bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the bands of those sins which by our frailty we have

committed. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

Hymn 248, Lead us, O Father (sung kneeling).

AN ACT OF DEDICATION

Before Almighty God we declare —

That as we have striven in war, so shall we strive even more mightily in peace:

To bring a sense of dignity and worth to every member of the human race.

To treat with reverence, as a trust, all things of earth and sky and sea.

To put away all hatred, bearing one another's burdens.

To offer in thy service the skills and products of hand and brain in industry, and art, and education.

To assume our full share of responsibility in the family of nations.

To be born anew, in the Spirit, that a new world may come to pass in which every nation and people may have equal opportunity.

Wherefore let us say, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us,

OUR Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

GO forth into the world in peace, to make peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast that which is good. Strengthen the faint-hearted, befriend the lonely, welcome the stranger, do good unto all men. Serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

¶ *Then may be sung a Hymn. The following are suggested as proper:*

In Christ There Is No East or West
Rise Up, O Men of God
These Things Shall Be (*Tune of Fight the Good Fight or Truro*)

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PRAYERS

For a Better World

O GOD, whose purposes are from everlasting and whose kingdom is unshakeable; Help us to know that the end of battle is but the beginning of opportunity, and that all the energies once consecrated to the waging of war must now be offered in the struggle for peace. Grant us such courage that our efforts may never falter; such love, that every barrier to brotherhood and equality may be beaten down; such wisdom, that every problem of boundary and trade, of production and distribution, of language and culture, may be solved; such faith, that when the way is long and hard we may yet persevere to the end, in the knowledge that thy sovereign will reigneth as revealed in the redeeming power of thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

For the Nations

O GOD, the Lord of all kings and kingdoms; Let thy strong hand control the nations and cause them to long for thy love to rule on earth. Strengthen, we pray thee, all who are trying to draw the nations of the world closer together in true brotherhood working for righteousness and peace. Guide the hearts and minds of rulers and statesmen, that they may seek first thy kingdom, the reign of justice and freedom for all peoples, whether great or small. *Amen.*

For the Church

MOST Gracious God, who hast called thy Church out of the world to bring the world unto thee; Inspire her, we pray thee, with the spirit of power and of love and of a sound mind, to the end that she may win all nations to pure obedience and faith in Christ, and lead them through righteousness to that promised peace, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither learn war any more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For True Peace

ETERNAL God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, and no strength known but the strength of love: So guide and inspire, we pray thee, the work of all

who seek thy kingdom, at home and abroad, that henceforth all peoples may seek and find their security, not in force of arms, but in the perfect love that casteth out fear, and in the fellowship revealed to us by thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving

O GOD of all mercy and comfort, accept the heartfelt praises and thanksgivings of those whose dear ones, after having fought a good fight, return to them in safety. In the greatness of their joy may they ever be mindful of those whose lives are shadowed with abiding sorrow; for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Saviour. *Amen.*

For Power to Forgive

MERCIFUL God, in whose dear Son we have redemption, even the forgiveness of sins; Give us such strong belief in this, the only power that can abolish evil, that we shall be enabled to forgive our enemies; through Christ, the crucified. *Amen.*

For the War Dead

UNTO thee, O God, be praise and thanksgiving for all those who have been faithful unto death; Into thy merciful keeping we commend their souls, beseeching thee to grant that their love and devotion may bear fruit in us in more abundant love for others; through him who by his death hath destroyed death, thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For the Bereaved

ALMIGHTY God, who didst offer thine only Son to be made perfect through suffering, and to win our salvation by enduring the cross; Sustain with thy healing power all those whose loved ones have given their lives in the service of our country. Redeem, we pray thee, the pain of their bereavement, that, knowing their loss to be the price of our freedom, they may remember the gratitude of the nation for which they gave so costly a sacrifice. And grant, O Lord, that we may highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, and that out of the agony of the present hour there may arise a new and better world in which thy will shall rule, to the honor of thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

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